

medium by discharging the droplets of the recording liquid from a recording head. Applicant respectfully disagrees.

Hayashi discloses a pigment-containing ink composition that may contain a water-soluble emulsion. Col. 5, lines 59-61. The resin component of this water-soluble emulsion may be a resin particle having a core/shell structure. Col. 6, lines 10-13. In this core/shell structure, the core may comprise an epoxy resin or a urethane resin having a crosslinked structure. Col. 6, line 66 to col. 7, line 2. The Examiner cites this passage for the proposition that Hayashi discloses a fine particle non-photo-curable resin. Additionally, Hayashi teaches that the core of the core/shell structure may comprise an acrylic resin and/or a methacrylic resin with a resin having a crosslinked structure, and the shell may have a structure having a surface with a carboxyl group of an acryloyl group and/or a methacryloyl group. Col. 7, lines 2-7. The Examiner cites this passage for the proposition that Hayashi discloses a fine particle of photo-curable resin. However, Hayashi does not disclose a fine-particle non-photo-curable resin or a fine-particle photo-curable resin in either of these passage

Applicant's claimed invention relates to a recording liquid containing a colorant, water, a fine-particle non-photo-curable resin, and a fine-particle photo-curable resin. As set forth in the specification of Applicant's invention, the combination of a fine-particle non-photo-curable resin and fine-particle photo-curable-resin enable Applicant's invention to obtain the benefits of rapid formation of images on the recording material while also preventing clogging in the discharging nozzles. See pages 5-6 of the specification.

Hayashi, on the other hand, does not disclose a recording liquid containing either a fine-particle non-photo-curable resin or a fine-particle photo-curable resin. In fact, Hayashi does not discuss or suggest prevention of clogging or rapid formation of images with regard to cured or uncured resins. Rather, Hayashi relates to a method of producing images on two types of recording medium, wherein different colorants of the composition are dispersed depending on whether the recording medium is glossy or plain. Hayashi approaches the problem of preventing clogging by using glycerin (col. 4, lines 18-27), 2-pyrrolidone (col. 4, lines 28-35), polyhydric alcohol or a saccharide (col. 4, lines 36-67), or triethanolamine (col. 5, lines 36-43). Hayashi incorporates resins only as a continuous phase of water and dispersed phase of resin to improve fixation and scratch resistance of the resultant print. See col. 5, lines 61-63. Because Hayashi

does not contemplate the use of fine-particle cured and uncured resins with regard to the prevention of clogging or the rapid formation of images, Hayashi does not disclose whether the resins are photo-curable or non-photo-curable.

Therefore, because Hayashi does not disclose a recording liquid containing a fine-particle non-photo-curable resin together with a fine-particle photo-curable resin, Hayashi does not teach or suggest a composition containing a colorant, water, a fine particle of non-photo-curable resin, and a fine particle of photo-curable-resin. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw the § 102(e) rejection.

III. Conclusion

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the subject application in view of the above remarks. The subject application is now in condition for allowance and early notice to that effect is respectfully solicited.

Except for issue fees payable under 37 C.F.R. §1.18, the Commissioner is hereby authorized by this paper to charge any additional fees during the entire pendency of this application including fees due under 37 C.F.R. §§1.16 and 1.17 which may be required, including any required extension of time fees, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-0310.

Respectfully Submitted,

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